

POLICY OF	POLICY NUMBER	PAGE NUMBER
STATE OF DELAWARE	E-06	1 OF 2
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS: P-E-06/4-4360 (ESSENTIAL)	
CHAPTER: 11 HEALTH SERVICES	SUBJECT: ORAL CARE	
APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:		
EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-19-07		

PURPOSE:

Dental care is provided to inmates of the institution.

POLICY:

1. A dental care program, under the direction of a dentist licensed in the state, is provided for all inmates.
2. Dental screening is conducted during the Initial Health Assessment timeframe. A qualified health care professional or dental assistant will perform the dental screening.
3. Inmates identified during dental screening, as having urgent or emergent dental needs are placed on the Dental Sick Call list for evaluation and treatment.
4. Dental treatments, not limited to extractions, are provided according to a system of treatment priorities determined by the dentist.
5. Dental examination, supported by indicated x-rays are performed within 30 days of admission (12 months if ACA). This examination includes instructions in oral hygiene.
6. Only a licensed dentist performs dental examination and treatment.
7. The results of examinations is recorded on Dental Treatment record and filed in the Medical Record.
8. Treatment is provided in accordance with a treatment plan. Whenever possible teeth should be restored with a filling rather than extracted.
9. Arrangements are made for consultation with referral to specialists in dentistry or oral surgery, as needed.
10. Dental emergencies are responded to in a timely manner.
11. Dental prophylaxis is performed when prescribed by the dentist.
12. Fluoride toothpaste or oral fluoride rinses are available as determined necessary.

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13. A dental examination includes:
 - a. Taking, or reviewing a patient's dental history
 - b. Charting of teeth
 - c. Examination of the hard and soft tissue of the oral cavity with a mouth mirror, explorer, & adequate illumination.
 - d. X-ray studies for diagnostic purposes are taken if necessary.
 - e. Extra oral head and neck examination is included with the dental exam.
14. Dental examination and follow-up appointments are scheduled for the dentist using the Dental Sick Call Log and prioritization for need.
15. The Dental Sick Call Log is used to generate monthly statistics of dental services for Health Services Report.
16. Dental services are provided following infection control practices.
17. Dental assistant performs daily sharps & tool inventory log.

References:

National Commission on Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Prisons, 2003,P-E-06

American Correctional Association: Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, 4th Edition, 2003. 4-4360